ment in the next meeting. The date for the next meeting was fixed on 26th. Due to unavoidable reasons this had to be shifted. But we will hold this meeting as quickly as possible. I have every hope that we will be able to finality sort out this matter.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAIK; Mr. Speaker, Sir, among the project of Mahrashtra which have been refered here Gosikhud project falling in the Vidharba region is the largest and the oldest one. This project as taken over by the Central Government in the year 1983. The former Prime Minister, Shriamti Indira Gandhi inaugurated it at that time. It was inaugurated for the secon time by Shri Rajiv Gandhi. This project invlsios an outlay of Rs. 372 crores and it will, provide water to 25 laksh hectare of land. Now when the Prime Minister inaugurated this project we assumed that the needful has been done, but it is not so. As such I want to know whether the Government would stick to the principle that as long as clearance is not given to a project from all quarters, no 'bhumi pujan" or inauguration will be made.

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA: Mr Speaker, Sir, so far as I am concerned, I am prepared to do so.

[*English*]

SHRI ANANTHA VENKATA REDDY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Telugue Ganga Project is pending for clearance with C.W.C. since eight years. May I know from the hon. Minister the time the Government would take to clear this Telugu Ganga Project?

SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKALA: This project was taken up with the three State Government. But the three concerned Chief Ministers wrote to us saying that rather than the Central Government arbitrating and intervening in this matter, the three chief Ministers will sort out this matter among themselves. They have held so far three meetings in this regard. As things stand today, they have not made much progress. We shall again write to the three State Governments and we will try to see that some progress is made because they have not been able to make much headway by themselves in this matter.

[*Translation*]

Power Projects

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*66. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

STATEMENT

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has assessed the working of power projects including the projects of Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar and Orissa which are pending for want of approval by the Government; and

(b) if so, the details of observations made by NTPC for compliance in each case?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) at present no proposals of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for setting up of power projects in Orrissa and Gujarat are pending with the Central Electricity Authority. However, NTPC's proposal of Dadri Gas Based Power Project (Stage-II) (408 MW) and Farukhabad Gas Based Power Project (Stage-I) (800 MW) in U.P. are pending for confirmation of gas linkages and other clearances. NTPC's North Karanpura (Stage-I) (1000 MW) in Bihar and Rihand (Stage-II) (1000 MW) Super thermal Power Projects in U.P. are also awaiting

environmental clearance and investment decision

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has accepted that some project in Uttar Pradesh and bihar are pending fore certain reasons. In this connection, will the hon'ble Minister please inform us about the time by which these projects are likely to be completed?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. speaker, Sir, the Rihand (Stage-II) Project in Uttar Pradesh and North Karanpura Project in Bihar are under consideration but North Karanpura (Stage-I) Projects is pending completion on account of paucity of funds.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has categorically accepted in his reply that Dadri Gas Based Power Project and Farukhabad Gas Project in Uttar Pradesh are pending for confirmation of gas linkages and other clearances. In this connection, I would like to know categorically from the hon'ble Minister the time or date by which these projects are likely to get requisite clearance and the time by which they would be completed?

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, huge funds are spent on power projects. The Rihand Project (Stage-II) has been propared by N.E.I., England but tie financial the up has not yet been decided. North Karanpura is awaiting environmental clearance. It is a major obstacle in techno-economic clearance. Whent the techno-economic clearance is given, the Central Electricity authority also accords its clearance and financial tie-up is decided, work on these projects will start.

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar gets only 15 per cent of its total power requirement. Is there any special erath programme with the Government through which the electricity generation capacity may be increased. The second part of my question relates to the agreement sigend between India and Nepal which gave rise to hope that Bihar will get electricity after the completion of this project but due to some reasons the proposal could not be implemented. Is the Government taking any early steps to expdite this so as to resolve electricity problem in Bihar .

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bihar has the potential of an installed capacity 1300 megawat power but only 300 megawat is being generated. The plant load factor of Bihar is the lowest in the country. I would request you to ask the Bihar Government to increase the plant load factor.

[*English*]

The worst affected state today is Bihar and the plant load factor of Bihar is so per cent. Therefore, We have to exploit the installed capacity and maximise the production of power. (*Interruptions*)

Mr. SPEAKER: I now declare that the Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Gold from Cyanide

*655. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted about the availability of gold from cyanide;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to extract gold from cyanide which is dumped around the gold mines after extracting gold; and

(d) if so, the percentage of gold likely ot be available from cyanide?